

## DHS Daily Digest

The DHS Daily Digest provides summaries of the Department's latest news coverage. The DHS Daily Digest is released via email and contains hypertext links to the listed documents.

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**Local group taking applications for low-income home energy assistance** – *Gwinnett Daily Post* ✓

Proactive:

Passive: ✓✓✓

Reactive:

Positive: 0

Negative: 0

Neutral: 3

#### National News

**Red tape traps teenagers seeking refuge in U.S.** – [yahoo.com](#)

**AP investigation: Justice elusive in child sex abuse on base** – *Associated Press*

Proactive

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#### Local News

**Creative Paths to Employment Job Fair to be Hosted Next Month** – [ValdostaToday.com](#)

By Desiree Carver

VALDOSTA – For its third year, the South Georgia Coalition for Employment will host its Creative Paths to Employment Job Fair next month with hopes of making this year bigger and better.

The South Georgia Coalition for Employment is a coalition consisting of the Valdosta Police Department, City of Valdosta, Georgia Department of Community Supervision, the Valdosta/Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce, “Never Too Late Program” of Lowndes/Valdosta Commission for Children and Youth , Paxen Learning Services, LLC, Telamon Corporation, Wiregrass Technical College, Georgia Department of Labor, Goodwill Industries, South Georgia Regional Library System, Project Hope, Boys and Girls Club of Valdosta, and the Valdosta Chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) that have come together to assist unemployed citizens in South Georgia to find a job.

“South Georgia Coalition for Employment wants to help provide employment not just to certain individuals, but to help everyone who needs a job,” said Kelley Saxon of the South Georgia Coalition for Employment. “This is for the youth, people with a criminal background, older adults and just anyone who is looking for employment.”

While one of the Valdosta Police Department’s main goals with this job fair has always been to reduce recidivism rates, Chief Childress noted that this year’s partnerships with youth programs are serving as a way to keep youths busy and out of trouble.

As Alma Williams of Project Hope stated, the goal of her organization is to create 100 summer jobs for students ages 11 to 18.

“These students must attend summer school two hours a day and work six hours day,” Williams said.

Bill Holt of the Boys and Girls Club added that applications will note who can hire teens and who can provide job shadowing, which he feels is a “great opportunity for the kids.”

The job fair will be held Thursday, April 26 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Rainwater Conference Center. There will be coalition members on-hand during the job fair to assist applicants with completing job applications.

Potential job applicants in need of assistance with the completion of job applications, resume building and tips for a successful job interview, can contact the Georgia Department of Labor, located at 221 South Ashley Street, at (229) 333-5211.

Cedric Small with the Never Too Late Program will be providing clothing to 100 men and women for the job fair and providing interview and resume help. Those in need of these services can contact Small at (229) 232-1820.

Contact the City of Valdosta Human Resource Department at (229) 259-3544 or by email at [covhr@valdostacity.com](mailto:covhr@valdostacity.com) to register for the job fair.

Businesses looking to register online can do so [here](#).

Applicants and businesses are also encouraged to fill out forms on [employgeorgia.com](http://employgeorgia.com).

## **GSW announces 1st-of-its-kind, long-term care management degree – *Americus Times-Recorder***

By Beth Alston

AMERICUS — Georgia Southwestern State University (GSW) will offer a bachelor of science in long-term care management (LTCM), the first-of-its-kind in the nation, beginning this fall. The new degree program will bring Leisa Easom, Ph.D., to the College of Nursing and Health Sciences as the associate dean. Easom currently serves as executive director of the Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregiving, a unit of GSW.

“A better prepared workforce is needed to care for our nation’s aging and disabled populations,” said Easom. “There is a national crisis with Alzheimer’s and related dementias.” Every 66 seconds someone in the U.S. develops Alzheimer’s, according to the Alzheimer’s Association. Georgia is the 11th state with the fastest growing 65 and older population. In addition, one in six children have developmental disabilities while one in 68 children have autism spectrum disorder, per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

“Numerous years as a geriatric nurse and working directly with caregivers over the past eight years uniquely prepare me to lead our new initiative,” Easom stated.

The LTCM degree, offered online and the classroom, will prepare graduates to assist patients and families to connect with community resources, transition from hospital to home, and manage the care of residents in an institutional setting.

As a four-year, interdisciplinary degree, students will take courses from a variety of disciplines — nursing, caregiving, psychology, sociology, and business. They will become knowledgeable in palliative care, hospice, gerontology, family issues, caregiving support, counseling, health promotion, business management, health funding, and cultural competency.

“Employers today express the need for a new skill set and are looking for individuals who are compassionate, culturally sensitive, able to communicate well with others and have managerial skills,” said Easom. “Graduates will be fully equipped to help patients and their families better navigate today’s complicated health care system.”

“Dr. Easom is a nationally renowned expert in the field of caregiving,” said Sandra Daniel, Ph.D., dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences. “I have full confidence that our new long-term care management degree program will undergo substantial growth very quickly as a result of the expertise that she brings in this field.”

“I am proud that Georgia Southwestern is the first university in the nation to offer this exciting and relevant degree program,” said GSW President Neal Weaver. “It is evident to us through our discussions with employers across the country that the time is now for such program and we are excited to expand our current academic offerings to include what we believe will become a highly sought after degree.”

Organizations in the region looking to employ GSW graduates with this degree include hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, Area Agencies on Aging, home health care agencies, state department of aging services, and more.

**Roswell Rotary hosts first 'Senior Fair' event to offer post retirement life guidance –**  
North Fulton Neighbor  
By Lindsay Moscarello

Roswell Rotary will host a first of its kind session on March 22, a Senior Fair, to highlight the importance of an aging care plan.

North Fulton Senior Services Director Ron Harlow, Carolyn Mattingly, Consultant in the Senior Care Business, and Caring Companions of Atlanta President Adam Seever, will be at the helms of the fair.

Sever describes the group's efforts as "business owners and professionals that comes across older adults that crisis plan and not advance plan, to their detriment."

"We proactively seek out older adults and adult children with senior parents and try to educate them on the implications of not taking initiative," he said.

According to Roswell Rotary Communications Director Lynne Lindsay, "collectively, they have years in the senior industry and are all dedicated Roswell Rotarians."

"A free event for any adult who plans on aging well," can ask questions from "experts in the senior industry."

The goal of the group is not to sell, but to inform of "what's out there and why it is important" to not wait and have an aging care plan.

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. with the program running from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

There will be break-out sessions from 10:45 a.m. until 12 p.m. featuring: Mobility Scooters & More Owner Sue Sharp; My LTC Owner Michele Perlo; Care Patrol Certified Senior Advisor Victoria Archable; Patricia Elrod-Hill of Elrod-Hill Law Firm; Amy's Place Executive Director Pam Van Ahn; Peace of Mind Transitions Founder Kaye Ginsberg; Your Senior Partners Founder Barbara Scurry; Cindi Gatton of Pathfinder Patient Advocacy; Enable Occupational Therapy Owner Andrew Sever and Halcyon Hospice Administrator Stephan Molineaux.

Discussion topics include, but are not limited to: downsizing and relocation; eldercare law; home care/home health groups, money management, senior living options, maintaining independence and community resources and support.

Guests are then invited to attend the weekly Roswell Rotary lunch meeting at 12:15 p.m. The Bill Johnson Activity Building is at Roswell Area Park, 10495 Woodstock Road.

Space is limited, so those wishing to attend are encouraged to RSVP at <http://roswellrotary.club/our-events/senior-fair/>.

**Savannah man sentenced to life without parole in 2015 murder of four year old girl –**  
wjcl.com  
By Ansley Christain

SAVANNAH (WJCL) — A man accused of killing his live-in girlfriend's four year old daughter in October 2015 has been convicted of numerous charges, including murder.

Lalia Delinar Hawthorne died on October 27, 2015.

Three days later, police, the Department of Family and Children Services and the Chatham County Coroner's Office initiated a suspicious death investigation following an autopsy by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's Medical Examiner's Office.

Nearly three months went by before authorities arrested and charged James Emmanuel Robinson, the girl's mother's boyfriend, in connection with her death.

According to the indictment, Robinson killed Lalia by striking her in the abdomen.

Police said at the time of Hawthorne's death that her siblings, ages seven, five and three, were removed from their home by DFACS and that Robinson was also under investigation for criminal acts against the victim's three year old sibling.

Kristin Fulford, spokeswoman for the Chatham County District Attorney's office, says Robinson was convicted earlier this month of felony murder, two counts of aggravated assault and three counts of cruelty to children in the first degree.

Some of those convictions stemmed from the criminal acts against the three year old. Fulford said that Robinson also struck the three year old girl in the abdomen and even bit her.

Judge James Bass today sentenced Robinson to life in prison without parole.

**Local group taking applications for low-income home energy assistance – Gwinnett**  
*Daily Post*  
By Curt Yeomans

Residents who are struggling financially and need help keeping the lights turned on in their homes are invited to apply for assistance from the Partnership for Community Action Inc.

The group, which works with clients in Gwinnett, Rockdale, DeKalb, Newton and Walton counties, announced Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program funding is available from the Georgia Department of Human Services. The funds can be used to provide one-time assistance to residents who need help paying energy bills.

Appointments to file an application can be made at [www.pcaction.org](http://www.pcaction.org) or by calling 404-537-4300.

**National News**

## **Red tape traps teenagers seeking refuge in U.S. – yahoo.com Local News**

By Caitlin Dickson

Like most teenagers in the United States, Luis looked forward to his 18th birthday. Unlike most teens, Luis's excitement was not about being able to vote or buy cigarettes or other American rites of passage associated with turning 18, but about the prospect of being released from custody and reunited with his family.

A little more than two months before his birthday, Luis, whose name has been changed to protect his identity because he is currently seeking asylum, arrived at the southern U.S. border after a long and dangerous journey through Mexico. His father had never been a part of his life, so when his mother fell ill and went to live in a church without him, Luis decided to leave his Guatemalan village, which had become ruled by violence, and seek work in Mexico. But not long after arriving in Chiapas, Luis met someone who told him that if he had family in the U.S., he should go there. Luis knew he had relatives in Atlanta and, though he had no idea how to get there, he set out on a journey to find them.

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/red-tape-traps-teenagers-seeking-refuge-us-181646194.html>

## **AP investigation: Justice elusive in child sex abuse on base – Associated Press**

By Justin Pritchard and Reese Dunklin

JACKSONVILLE, N.C. (AP) - A decade after the Pentagon began confronting rape in the ranks, the U.S. military frequently fails to protect or provide justice to the children of service members when they are sexually assaulted by other children on base, an Associated Press investigation has found.

Reports of assaults and rapes among kids on military bases often die on the desks of prosecutors, even when an attacker confesses. Other cases don't make it that far because criminal investigators shelve them, despite requirements they be pursued.

<http://www.wsbtv.com/news/ap-investigation-us-military-overlooks-sex-abuse-among-kids/715128815>